

Appl. No. : 09/659,999  
Filed : September 12, 2000

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 1-6, and 8, and please add new Claims 9-15.

1-6. (Currently Cancelled)

7. (Previously Cancelled)

8. (Currently Cancelled)

9. (New) A method of assembling a fuse connection box comprising a fuse and a housing for attaching the fuse, said housing comprising a first side housing accommodating a first side terminal and a second side housing accommodation a second side terminal, said first side housing and second side housing having portions for engagement with each other,

said method including steps of:

pre-assembling said first side terminal attached to an end of a first side wire such that at least a large majority of the connection end of said first side wire is enclosed within said first side housing so as to provide first side terminal protection from damage prior to complete fuse connection box assembly;

pre-assembling said second side terminal attached to an end of a second side wire such that at least a large majority of the connection end of said second side wire is enclosed within said second side housing so as to provide second side terminal protection from damage prior to complete fuse connection box assembly; and

engaging said first side housing and second side housing to form a single housing in which said fuse can be attached.

10.. (New) A method of assembling a fuse connection box as set forth in claim 9, wherein said first side housing and said second side housing are of identical shapes having first engagement portions at one end in the direction of arrangement of fuses and having second engagement portions of shapes engaging with the first engagement portions at the other end.

11. (New) A method of assembling a fuse connection box comprising a fuse and a housing for attaching the fuse, said housing comprising a fuse, a housing for attaching the fuse and protective cover, said housing comprising a first side housing accommodating a first side terminal and a second side housing accommodation a second side terminal, said first side housing and second side housing having portions for engagement with each other,

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said first side housing and second side housing being of identical shapes having first engagement portions at one end in the direction of arrangement of fuses and having second engagement portions of shapes engaging with the first engagement portions at the other end, and

said protective cover being attached to said first side housing and second side housing so as to cover said fuse in a state when said first side housing and said second side housing are connected and said fuse is attached,

said method including steps of:

pre-assembling said first side terminal attached to an end of a first side wire such that at least a large majority of the connection end of said first side wire is enclosed within said first side housing so as to provide first side terminal protection from damage prior to complete fuse connection box assembly;

pre-assembling said second side terminal attached to an end of a second side wire such that at least a large majority of the connection end of said second side wire is enclosed within said second side housing so as to provide second side terminal protection from damage prior to complete fuse connection box assembly; and

engaging said first side housing and second side housing to form a single housing in which said fuse can be attached.

12. (New) A method of assembling a fuse connection box as set forth in claim 11, wherein said protective cover is formed with a protective frame for preventing action of an external force on an engagement portion between said protective cover and said first side housing and second side housing.

13. (New) A method of assembling a fuse connection box as set forth in claim 12, further comprising a protective cover attached to said first side housing and second side housing so as to cover said fuse in a state where said first side housing and said second side housing are connected and said fuse is attached.

14. (New) A method of assembling a fuse connection box as set forth in claim 13, wherein said protective cover is formed with a protective frame for preventing action of an external force on an engagement portion between said protective cover and said first side housing and second side housing.

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15. (New) A method of assembling a fuse connection box as set forth in claim 9, additionally comprising a protective cover, wherein said protective cover is formed with a protective frame for preventing action of an external force on an engagement portion between said protective cover and said first side housing and second side housing.